

LEDBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Interim

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year

1942.Staff of the Public Health Department.Medical Officer of Health:

WILLIAM HOGG, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.R.S.I.

Clerical Staff:

A.N. LITTLE. (Temporary Appointment).

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County Offices,
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Ledbury.

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Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my
interim Annual Report for the Year 1942, which is much
abbreviated for obvious reasons.

Throughout the year I have continued
to have the support of the Council and this has greatly facilitated
the work of the Department.

I also wish to place on record the
valuable assistance which I have received from the other Officers
of the Council, this has always been most willingly given.

There has been some delay in
publishing this Report but this has been unavoidable owing to
pressure of work.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM HOGG.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A: STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	499
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942)	977
Rateable Value	£18,217
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£71.16.3

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year:

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 16.2

Stillbirth Rate Rate per 1,000 (live and still) Births ... 31.7

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population (crude) 12.8

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total Births.
Heading No.29 ... Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Heading No.30 ... Other Puerperal Causes	Nil.	Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:

All Infants per 1,000 live Births	82.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate live Births	92.6
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live Births	Nil

SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:

The number of specimens examined by the County and City Public Health Laboratory during the year was as follows:-

Swabs	78
Sputum	10
Blood	1
Water - Chemical Examination	1
Bacteriological "	5

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA:Water:

No important change was made in the water supply of the Area.

Drainage and Sewerage:

There have been no important extensions of the sewers during the year.

Public Cleansing:

This continues to be carried out satisfactorily.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area:

<u>Inspections:</u>	Slaughterhouses	Nil
	Common Lodging Houses	5
	Bakehouses	6
	Housing and Nuisances	149
	Housing Consolidated Regulations 1923	Nil
	Infectious Diseases	24
	Factories with Mechanical Power	26
	Factories without Mechanical Power	9
	Miscellaneous	15
	Total					<u>234</u>

Notices Issued:-

Informal	19
Statutory re Housing	Nil
Statutory under other Acts	1

Summary of Defects Remedied:-

Housing Defects Remedied	123
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Disinfection re Infectious Disease:-

Number of Disinfections	21
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SECTION D. - HOUSING:Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year:-

Total Number of Dwelling Houses Inspected for Housing Defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	39
Number of Inspections made for the Purpose	48
Number of Dwelling Houses found not to be fit in all respects for human habitation	11

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:-

Number of Defective Dwelling Houses Rendered Fit in Consequence of Informal Action by the Local Authority or their Officers	11
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SECTION E. - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD:Milk Supply:-

There are no Registered Producers of milk in the Area and consequently no inspections of farms or dairies were made.

Eight retailers are Registered. No samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year.

Meat and Other Foods:-

It has not been possible to carry out a complete inspection of meat etc. exposed for sale in the District, but a certain amount of this work has been carried out.

SECTION F. - PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES:Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1942:-

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	23	18	4
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	4	-
Polio Encephalitis	1	1	-

Analysis of Total Notified Cases According to Age:-

Disease.	Under 1	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	20+	35+	45+	65+	Totals.
Diphtheria	-	-	1	5	-	5	4	5	2	-	1	-	23
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	4
Polio Encephalitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	1	-	1	5	-	6	7	5	3	-	1	-	29

Scabies:-

The incidence of scabies appears to have been low in the District before the outbreak of war, but with the outbreak of war, as a result of migration of population and overcrowding the incidence of the disease has increased. During the year 7 cases of scabies were brought to my notice but as the disease is not notifiable this figure probably understates the facts.

Diphtheria Immunisation:-

The Department continued its efforts to secure immunisation against diphtheria of all children residing in the area. The Council with the co-operation of the practitioners in the Area inaugurated a scheme whereby free immunisation was available from the family doctor and this scheme has helped greatly.

During the year, 71 children under 5 years of age, and 83 children 5 - 15 years completed courses of diphthoria prophyllactic, making a total of 154. At the end of the year, it was estimated that 82% of children under 5 years had received courses of prophyllactic and 95% of those aged 5 - 15 years.

Tuberculosis:-

At the end of 1941 there were 14 cases of tuberculosis on the Register - 12 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary. During the Year, 7 cases were added to the Register - 6 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary. Two cases were removed from the Register during the Year these being pulmonary, and on the 31st. December, 1942, 16 cases of pulmonary and 3 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis remained on the Register..

New Cases and Mortality During 1942.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15+	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25+	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35+	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	-

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October 1943.